



STOCKPORT PARISH CHURCH
St Mary's in the Marketplace

Churchgate Stockport SK1 1YG

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www.stmarysinthemarketplace.com

Service times at St Mary's

**Sunday: 10:30am Holy Communion or
Morning Prayer**

ormally the first and third Sunday is Holy Communion
with Morning on the second and fourth.

**Tuesday: 10.00am Holy Communion
12.15pm Lunchtime Service**

Wedding, Baptism, Funeral and other services by arrangement.

**St Mary's and the Nave Café is open – Tuesday, Thursday, Friday &
Saturday from 9.00am – 3.00pm**



STOCKPORT PARISH CHURCH
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Parish Magazine – May 2016



50p

your contribution towards the cost of producing this magazine should be
placed in the donations box please

May 2016 at St Mary's

Sunday 1 st May	Holy Communion Stockport Old Town Folk Festival Day 4	10.30am 11.00am – 5.00pm
Tuesday, 3 rd May	Holy Communion Lunchtime Service	10.00am 12.15pm
Thursday, 5 th May	Parochial Church Council Meeting with Rev Canon Diane Cookson Rural Dean	7.30pm
Sunday, 8 th May	Morning Prayer	10.30am
Tuesday, 10 th May	Holy Communion Lunchtime Service	10.00am 12.15pm
Sunday, 15 th May CHRISTIAN AID WEEK	Day of Pentecost Whit Sunday Holy Communion	10.30am
Tuesday, 17 th May CHRISTIAN AID WEEK	Holy Communion Lunchtime Service SAVE A LIFE WITH a sausage sarnie	10.00am 12.15pm
Thursday, 18 th May CHRISTIAN AID WEEK	SAVE A LIFE WITH a sausage sarnie	
Friday, 19 th May CHRISTIAN AID WEEK	SAVE A LIFE WITH a sausage sarnie	
Saturday, 20 th May CHRISTIAN AID WEEK	SAVE A LIFE WITH a sausage sarnie	
Sunday, 22 nd May	Trinity Sunday Morning Prayer	10.30am
Tuesday, 24 th May	Holy Communion Lunchtime Service	10.00am 12.15pm
Saturday 28 th May		
Sunday, 29 th May	Morning Prayer	10.30am
Tuesday, 31 st May	Holy Communion Lunchtime Service	10.00am 12.15pm



Christian Aid Week – 15th – 21st May 2016

If you share Jesus' heart for people living in extreme poverty, join us with a Big Brekkie fundraiser. Jesus calls us to love our neighbours – and not just the people who live next door or down the street.

Answer God's call to end poverty.

Support our "Big Brekkie" breakfasts at the Nave Café during Christian Aid Week.

Crossword answers

ACROSS: 1, Debtor. 4, Shaken. 7, Ache. 8, Leavened. 9, Overcome. 13, Etc. 16, Troublemaking. 17, Par. 19, Ignatius. 24, Treasure. 25, Mene. 26, Astray. 27, Dinner.
DOWN: 1, Deaf. 2, Behaviour. 3, Relic. 4, Swarm. 5, Aged. 6, Elect. 10, Rabbi. 11, Ocean. 12, Exalt. 13, Epicurean. 14, Cage. 15, Step. 18, Acres. 20, Gaudy. 21, An end. 22, Fair. 23, Fear.

A Concert to Celebrate the Life and Work of Nicolas Henshall.

Thank You to John Turner and his team of talented musicians for performing at St Mary's for the Celebratory Concert in memory of Nicolas Henshall, held on the 23rd April.

The concert was introduced by a great friend of Nicholas Henshall, our recently retired Rector, Rev Roger Scoones and featured James Bowman (countertenor), Margaret McDonald (mezzo-soprano), John Turner (recorder), Simon Fraser (oboe), Alex John (double base), Peter Lawson & David Jones (piano), Heather Bills (cello) and Jackson Towers (organ) with a reading by Carol Condliffe.

A wonderfully varied programme of familiar music written by Purcell, Handel, Bach & Mozart to more modern pieces, with many of the composers sat in the audience.

The works by Mervyn Burtch, Peter Hope, Luke Whitlock, Robin Stevens and David Bengier receiving their first performance at this concert. Music written by Jane Wells and Douglas Steel also included in the programme.

The concert was kindly supported by the Douglas Steel Foundation and the Ida Carroll Trust.

A retiring collection was taken for the St Ann's Hospice and St Mary's. The total amount collected was £942.15 with £235.54 given to us.

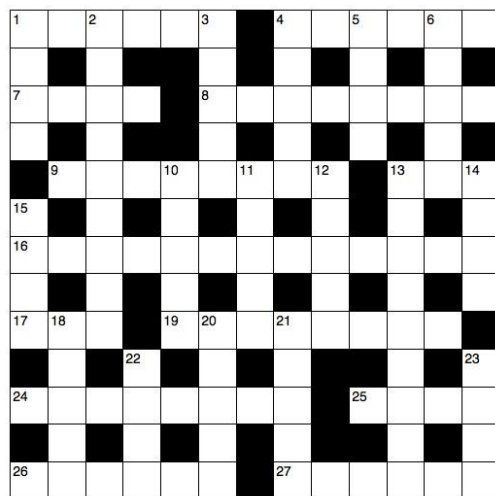
Catering by "Backs Delicatessen" 62 Heaton Moor Road, Heaton Moor.
Telephone: 0161 432 3309 www.backsdeli.com

In case there was any doubt that we bought Roger a brand new bicycle, it can be seen in the photo opposite as he collected it from "Woodsons Cycles" of Castle Street, Edgeley.

If you were wondering what happened next - yes - he did ride his new bike home, making good progress in the traffic. We won't see him again on his bike in Stockport, but wish him many hours of happy cycling in the Gloucestershire countryside (as shown below).

Rev Roger Scoones
3 Warwick Close
Fairford
Gloucestershire
GL7 4LR





Across

- 1 One who owes money, goods or services (Isaiah 24:2) (6)
 4 'A good measure, pressed down, — together and running over' (Luke 6:38) (6)
 7 Continuous dull pain (Proverbs 14:13) (4)
 8 This bread contains yeast (Amos 4:5) (8)
 9 'But take heart! I have — the world' (John 16:33) (8)
 13 And the rest (abbrev.) (3)
 16 What Paul was accused of by Tertullus, the high priest's lawyer, in his trial before Felix (Acts 24:5) (13)
 17 Rap (anag.) (3)

19 Founder of the Jesuits in 1534 (8)

24 'For where your — is, there your heart will be also' (Luke 12:34) (8)

25 The first word written on the wall during King Belshazzar's great banquet (Daniel 5:25) (4)

26 'We all, like sheep, have gone — ' (Isaiah 53:6) (6)

27 One was given in honour of Jesus in Bethany (John 12:2) (6)

Down

- 1 'The blind receive sight, the lame walk, the — hear, the dead are raised' (Luke 7:22) (4)
 2 Conduct (Colossians 1:21) (9)
 3 In the Catholic and Orthodox traditions, the body of a saint or his belongings, venerated as holy (5)
 4 'Like a — of locusts men pounce on it' (Isaiah 33:4) (5)
 5 Very old (Genesis 44:20) (4)
 6 In Calvinist theology, one who is predestined by God to receive salvation (5)
 10 How Nicodemus addressed Jesus when he visited him one night (John 3:2) (5)
 11 Sea (Psalm 148:7) (5)
 12 'I will — you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever' (Psalm 145:1) (5)
 13 One of the groups of philosophers that Paul met in Athens, who disagreed with his teaching about the resurrection (Acts 17:18) (9)
 14 Barred enclosure (Ezekiel 19:9) (4)
 15 'Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in — with the Spirit' (Galatians 5:25) (4)
 18 Cares (anag.) (5)
 20 Garish (Ezekiel 16:16) (5)
 21 'So God said to Noah, "I am going to put — — to all people"' (Genesis 6:13) (2,3)
 22 Just (2 Corinthians 6:13) (4)
 23 'The — of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge' (Proverbs 1:7) (4)

St Mary's in the Marketplace – part of the community in Stockport Old Town. There is something about May that makes you think of ancient customs ...

In Britain, as in most parts of Western Europe, May Day marks the end of harsh winter months and allows us to look forward to the beginning of Summer. For our ancestors, it was a major annual festival and was celebrated throughout the country with music, dancing and games. Traditional May Day celebrations included dancing round the May Pole and the appearance of hobby horses and characters such as "Robin Hood" and "Jack in Green". For Stockport Old Town little has changed for in 2016 and we too play our part in the Stockport Folk Festival (sponsored by Robinsons Brewery. Four days of music, dancing and general celebration including a magnificent display of traditional Folk Dancing from Stockport Primary Schools and a wonderful play about "The Green Man" presented by the children of Vernon Park Primary School. The world-renowned Fosbrooks will also be performing. A special Folk-themed Foodie Friday takes with the best street food, craft ales and stunning live music performances. Morris dancing at sessions hosted by Manchester Morris Dancers at St Mary's Church and if you play a folk instrument, there's also an opportunity to learn to play morris music. Look out for the various arts and crafts workshops taking place in the Market Square. Lots of evening entertainment at Seven Miles Out. Sunday (May Day) will be the main Festival Day of the Stockport Old Town Folk Festival with nine morris sides from all over the North West converging on the Market Square to take part in the Folk Parade from the Market to Merseyway! From 12 o'clock free folk entertainment - Morris dancing all over the Old Town! Robinsons' Shire Horse and Dray in the Market Square. Street theatre performances of 'May Day Madness' together with the acrobatic performers. **For us the morning begins with our Service of Holy Communion at 10.30am with Rev David Parker to be followed by coffee and cakes after the service and extended opening for passing visitors to come and wander around our magnificent church.**

Day of Pentecost – Whit Sunday

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born. Jesus had told His apostles that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles – but He knew they could not do the work themselves – they would need His help. And so the apostles and disciples waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues – to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the apostles and disciples of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent. Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, he could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Attempted Break-in

Who said lightening doesn't strike twice – but this time the damage was to our newly refurbished Oritory Window and was minimal but nevertheless totally pointless and extremely annoying.

Just around three weeks after our Service of Thanksgiving for the conservation, restoration and re-ordering of St Mary's, we have been subjected to an attempted break-in.

The removal of one of the window guards (following the unscrewing of several screws) and the smashing of four of the small glass panels. Clearly no one gained access, but a wake-up call that we remain vulnerable particularly at that end of the building.



Our thanks to the Police for their assistance, PC Tony Moss finding the missing window guard (dumped nearby) and to Pendle Stained Glass for attending so quickly to refit it. Now subject to an insurance claim the window will be repaired properly (the glass replaced) as soon as possible.

Church Guide

Apologies for the inconvenience if anyone has a copy of the Church Guide (on sale in the Stockport Heritage Centre) with problem pages. We have discovered printing errors on the second batch of booklets ordered and fear that some 20 or so copies are out there somewhere in the community.

If you have one of these defective booklets please let us know and we will replace it for you as soon as new stocks are available.

The Stockport Old Town Folk Festival

28th April – 1st May 2016

**Including Manchester Morris Dancers
Workshops at St Mary's on Saturday, 29th April.**

The Stockport Old Town Folk Festival

"Nave Café" Specials

**Join us for coffee and cakes after our
Sunday service of Holy Communion**

1st May 2016

Tuesday Lunchtime Services

12.15pm – 12.50pm

Everyone Welcome

Letter to an important town: Studies in 1 Corinthians 1-4

April 12	Living at two addresses (1:1-9)
April 19	Sticking together (1: 10-19)
April 26	God's amazing wisdom (1: 20 – 2:5) (Rev Andy Livingston)
May 3	Beyond science, history, imagination... (2: 5-16)
May 10	Question Time
May 17	Who really counts in the church? (3: 1-9)
May 24	All things are yours! (3: 10-23)
May 31	Knowing yourself (4: 1-7) (Canon Rob McLaren)
June 7	The power, the glory and the cost (4: 8-21) (Revd Richard Lawry)

These services

Following the retirement of the Rev Roger Scoones, these services are being organised and led by Canon John Briggs who can be contacted on 01625 267228, with other speakers from time to time. Information correct at time of printing.

All welcome

It is hoped the services are an encouragement to shoppers, office workers and other who are free to attend this informal act of worship lasting 35 minutes.

A question box is provided for any who wish to submit a topic (see May 10).

Trinity Sunday – celebrating our God who is Three Persons

Trying to explain the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself – way out there in space – unapproachable in its fiery majesty – is the Father. The light that flows from it, and which illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are of the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play.

The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit. For example:

Deuteronomy 6:4 'Hear O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one..'
Isaiah 45:22 'Turn to me and be saved... for I am God, and there is no other'

Genesis 1:1-2 'In the beginning God created.... And the Spirit of God was hovering...'

Judges 14:6 etc 'The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power...'

John 1:1-3 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.'

Luke 24:49 actually manages to squeeze the whole Trinity into one sentence. Jesus tells his disciples: 'I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (the Holy Spirit) from on high.'

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we stand in its brilliant light, we find that the warmth soon follows.

The Queen's 90th Birthday Beacon Lighting Ceremony

21st April 2016

The Queen lit the first of more than 900 beacons to shine across the UK and overseas as part of her 90th birthday celebrations. We were therefore delighted to be able to offer the grounds of St Mary's for the lighting of the Stockport beacon and



to welcome the Mayor, Councillor Andrew Verdeille (along with other guests for refreshment in church) before he give his official welcome and message from His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales.

Coming in June

5th June Civic Service
with the Rt Revd Libby Lane Bishop of Stockport
12th June "Afternoon Tea" with "Contact Stockport"



Stockport & Tameside Tai Chi & Chi-Kung

Starting Classes at St Andrews from May 2016

The Taste of Tai Chi Course is for complete beginners, you will sample tai chi, qigong and other meditation techniques and receive quality tuition and also receive training aids to help you practice at home.

There are six consecutive lessons starting on the 12th May 2016 at St Andrew's Community Hall, Hall Street, Stockport, SK1 4DA. 7:00pm till 8:00pm. Course fee £30 for the full term.

"A Taste of Tai Chi" is a six week introductory course where you will learn the first section of the Yang Style Tai Chi Form, the Eight Pieces of Silk Brocades Qigong, Pushing hands, and some basic meditation skills. Upon completion you will be eligible to continue your Tai Chi & Qigong studies by enrolling into the "Building on the Basics" Course from here you will be able to subscribe to regular classes and have a sound footing in the basics.

One step at a time – if you are interested please contact Richard Jones

Telephone: **07583 129851**

or email **stockporttaichi@yahoo.com** for more information.

You can also visit **tamesidetaichi.webeden.co.uk**.



St Mary's with St Andrew's – Gardening Club....

Green fingers are not required but assistance with the gardening at St Mary's, St Mary's Rectory and St Andrews Community Hall would be greatly appreciated.

As most of you will be aware that Rector Roger maintained the grounds at his home at St Mary's Rectory and at St Andrews, with assistance (as required with the larger jobs) by professional gardener Andy Turner of AT Garden Services.

We now have a responsibility to look after St Mary's Rectory and of course to maintain St Andrews. The Rectory mainly requires the lawn to be cut on a regular basis, flowers dead-headed etc. Other areas can be allowed to grow wild until the bulbs and wild flowers are over then given an end of season cut. St Andrews requires the grass to be cut and flower beds weeded on a regular basis, also the paving to be cleared of weeds. Clearly Roger has taken his own tools with him although some remain in the boiler house at St Andrews. The Parochial Church Council has available a motor mower making the task of lawn maintenance relatively easy once you get the hang of it!

If you could give us a hand please let me know so that arrangements can be made for us to "get started". Roger kindly cut all the grass before he left, but time is ticking on and it is time to start a regular programme for the summer.

As far as St Mary's in the Marketplace is concerned, grounds maintenance is the responsibility of Stockport Council, however the display stands and smaller flower beds are our responsibility. Again, Roger has looked after these areas in the past and provided bedding out plants etc. Time to dig over the ground and prepare/purchase bedding out plants.